

# SPU

Rub malt between your hands to get the corn or *sprouting* clean away.  
 2. To shoot into ramifications.  
 Vitriol is apt to *sprout* with moisture. *Bacon.*  
 3. To grow.  
 Th' enliv'ning dust its head begins to rear,  
 And on the asbes *sprouting* plumes appear. *Tickell.*  
*SPROUT*. *n. f.* [from the verb.] A shoot of a vegetable.  
 Stumps of trees, lying out of the ground, will put forth *sprouts* for a time. *Bacon.*  
 Early ere the odorous breath of morn  
 Awakes the slumbering leaves, or tassell'd horn  
 Shakes the high thicket, hastes I all about,  
 Number my ranks, and visit every *sprout*. *Milton.*  
 To this kid, taken out of the womb, were brought in the  
 tender *sprouts* of shrubs; and, after it had tasted, began to eat  
 of such as are the usual food of goats. *Ray on the Creation.*  
*SPRUCE*. *adj.* [Skinner derives this word from *pruex*, French;  
 but he proposes it with hesitation: *Junius* thinks it comes from  
*sprout*; *Cassan* trifles yet more contemptibly. I know not  
 whence to deduce it from *pruce*. In ancient books  
 we find furniture of *pruce* a thing costly and elegant, and  
 thence probably came *pruce*.] Nice; trim; neat without  
 elegance.  
 The tree  
 That wraps that crystal in a wooden tomb,  
 Shall be took up *spruce*, fill'd with diamond. *Dante.*  
 Thou wilt not leave me in the middle street.  
 Tho' some more *spruce* companion thou dost meet. *Dante.*  
 Along the crisped shades and bow'rs  
 Revels the *spruce* and jocund Spring;  
 The graces, and the rosy-bosom'd hours,  
 Thither all their bounties bring. *Milton.*  
 I must not slip into too *spruce* a style for serious matters; and  
 yet I approve not that dull insipid way of writing practised by  
 many chymists.  
 He put his band and beard in order,  
 The *spruce* to accost and board her. *Hudibras.*  
 He is so *spruce*, that he can never be genteel. *Tatler.*  
 This Tim makes a strange figure with that ragged coat un-  
 der his livery: can't he go *spruce* and clean? *Arbutnot.*  
 To *SPRUCE*. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To dress with affected  
 neatness.  
*SPRUCEBEER*. *n. f.* [from *spruce*, a kind of fir.] Beer tinc-  
 tured with branches of fir.  
 In ulcers of the kidneys *sprucebeer* is a good balsamick. *Art.*  
*SPRUCELEATHER*. *n. f.* [Corrupted for *Prussian leather*.] *Amf.*  
 The leather was of *Pruce*. *Dryden's Fables.*  
*SPRUCENESS*. *n. f.* [from *spruce*.] Neatness without elegance.  
*SPRUNG*. The preterite and participle passive of *spring*.  
 Tall Norway fir, their masts in battle spent,  
 And English oaks, *sprung* leaks, and planks, restore. *Dryd.*  
 Now from beneath Maleas' airy height,  
 Aloft the *sprung*, and iter'd to Thebes her flight. *Pope.*  
 Who *sprung* from kings shall know less joy than I. *Pope.*  
*SPRUNT*. *n. f.* Any thing that is short and will not easily bend.  
*SPUD*. *n. f.* A short knife.  
 My love to Sheelah is more firmly fixt,  
 Than strongest weeds that grow these stones betwixt:  
 My *spud* these nettles from the stones can part,  
 No knife so keen to weed thee from my heart. *Swift.*  
*SPULLERS* of Yarn. *n. f.* Are such as are employed to see that  
 it be well spun, and fit for the loom. *DiD.*  
*SPUME*. *n. f.* [from *spuma*, Latin.] Foam; froth.  
 Materials dark and crude,  
 Of spirituous and fiery *spume*, till touch'd  
 With heaven's ray, and temper'd, they shoot forth  
 So beauteous, op'ning to the ambient light. *Milton.*  
 Waters frozen in pans, after their dissolution, leave a froth  
 and *spume* upon them, which are caused by the airy parts dif-  
 fused by the congealable mixture. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
 To *SPUME*. *v. n.* [from *spuma*, Latin.] To foam; to froth.  
*SPUMOUS*. *adj.* [from *spuma*, Latin; from the noun.] Frothy;  
*SPUMY*. } foamy.  
 The cause is the putrefaction of the body by unnatural heat:  
 the putrifying parts suffer a turgescence, and becoming airy  
 and *spumous*, ascend into the surface of the water. *Brown.*  
 Not with more madnels, rolling from afar,  
 The *spumy* waves proclaim the wat'ry war;  
 And mounting upwards with a mighty roar,  
 March onwards, and insult the rocky shore. *Dryden.*  
 The *spumous* and florid state of the blood, in passing through  
 the lungs, arises from its own elasticity, and its violent motion,  
 the aerial particles expanding themselves. *Arbutnot.*  
*SPUN*. The preterite and part. pass. of *spin*.  
 The nymph nor *spin*, nor dress'd with artful pride;  
 Her vest was gather'd up, her hair was ty'd. *Addison.*  
*SPONGE*. *n. f.* [from *spongia*, Latin.] A sponge. See *SPONGE*.  
 When he needs what you have glean'd, it is but squeezing  
 you, and, *sponge*, you shall be dry again. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*  
 Considering the motion that was impressed by the painter's  
 hand upon the *sponge*, compounded with the specific gravity

of the *sponge* and the resistance of the air, the *sponge* did me-  
 chanically and unavoidably move in that particular line of  
 motion. *Bentley's Sermon.*  
 To *SPUNGE*. *v. n.* [Rather *To sponge*.] To hang on others for  
 maintenance.  
 This will maintain you, with the perquisite of *sponging*  
 while you are young. *Swift to Gay.*  
*SPUNGINGHOUSE*. *n. f.* [from *sponge* and *house*.] A house to which  
 debtors are taken before commitment to prison, where the  
 bailiffs sponge upon them, or riot at their cost.  
 A bailiff kept you the whole evening in a *sponginghouse*. *Sw.*  
*SPUNGY*. *adj.* [from *sponge*.]  
 1. Full of small holes, and soft like a sponge.  
 Some English wool, vex'd in a Belgian loom,  
 And into cloth of *spongy* softness made,  
 Did into France or colder Denmark roam,  
 To ruin with worse air our staple trade. *Dryden.*  
 2. Wet; moist; watery.  
 There is no lady of more softer bowels,  
 More *spongy* to suck in the fence of fear. *Shakespeare.*  
 I saw Jove's bird, the Roman eagle, wing'd  
 From the *spongy* South to this part of the West,  
 There vanish'd in the sun-beams. *Shakespeare. Cymbeline.*  
 3. Drunken; wet with liquor.  
 What cannot we put upon  
 His *spongy* officers? *Shakespeare.*  
*SPUNK*. *n. f.* Rotten wood; touchwood. See *SPONK*.  
 To make white powder, the best way is by the powder of  
 rotten willows: *spunk*, or touchwood prepared, might perhaps  
 make it rust. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
*SPUR*. *n. f.* [from *spura*, Sax. *spore*, Danish, Icelandic, and Dutch;  
*espon*, French.]  
 1. A sharp point fixed in the rider's heel, with which he pricks  
 his horse to drive him forward.  
 He borrowing that homely armour for want of a better,  
 had come upon the *spur* to redeem Philoclea's picture. *Sidney.*  
 Whether the body poltick be  
 A horse whereon the governor doth ride,  
 Who, newly in the seat, that it may know  
 He can command it, lets it straight feel the *spur*. *Shakespeare.*  
 He presently fet *spurs* to his horse, and departed with the  
 rest of the company. *Knolly's History of the Turks.*  
 Was I for this entitled, fir,  
 And girt with rusty sword and *spur*,  
 For fame and honour to wage battle? *Hudibras.*  
 2. Incitement; instigation.  
 Seeing then that nothing can move, unless there be some  
 end, the desire whereof provoketh unto motion, how should  
 that divine power of the soul, that spirit of our mind, ever stir  
 itself into action, unless it have also the like *spur*? *Hooker.*  
 What need we any *spur*, but our own cause,  
 To prick us to redress? *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*  
 His laws are deep, and not vulgar; not made upon the *spur*  
 of a particular occasion, but out of providence of the future,  
 to make his people more and more happy. *Bacon.*  
 Reward is the *spur* of virtue in all good arts, all laudable  
 attempts; and emulation, which is the other *spur*, will never  
 be wanting, when particular rewards are proposed. *Dryden.*  
 The chief, if not only, *spur* to human industry and action,  
 is uneasiness.  
 The former may be a *spur* to the latter, 'till age makes him  
 in love with the study, without any childish bait. *Cleyna.*  
 3. A stimulus; a prick; any thing that galls and teases.  
 Grief and patience, rooted in him both,  
 Mingle their *spurs* together. *Shakespeare. Cymbeline.*  
 4. The sharp points on the legs of a cock with which he fights.  
 Of birds the bill is of like matter with the teeth: as for  
 their *spur*, it is but a nail. *Bacon.*  
 Animals have natural weapons to defend and offend; some  
 talons, some claws, some *spurs* and beaks. *Ray.*  
 5. Any thing standing out; a snag.  
 The strong bas'd promontory  
 Have I made shake, and pluck'd up by the *spurs*. *Shakespeare.*  
 The pine and cedar.  
 To *SPUR*. *v. a.* [from the noun.]  
 1. To prick with the spur; to drive with the spur.  
 My friend, who always takes care to cure his horse of flat-  
 ting fits, *spurred* him up to the very side of the coach. *Addison.*  
 Your father, when he mounted,  
 Rein'd 'em in strongly, and he *spurred* d them hard. *Dryden.*  
 Who would be at the trouble of learnings, when he finds his  
 ignorance is carested? But when you brow-beat and maul  
 them, you make them men; for though they have no natural  
 mettle, yet, if they are *spurred* and kicked, they will mend  
 their pace. *Celtier in Pride.*  
 2. To instigate; to incite; to urge forward.  
 Lovers break not hours,  
 Unless it be to come before their time: *Shakespeare.*  
 So much they *spur* their expedition.  
 Let the awe he has got upon their minds be so tempered with  
 the marks of good-will, that affection may *spur* them to their  
 duty. *Locke.*  
 3. To

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3. To drive by force.  
 Love will not be *spurr'd* to what it loathes. *Shakespeare.*  
 To *SPUR*. *v. n.*  
 1. To travel with great expedition.  
 With backward bows the Parthians shall be there;  
 And, *spurring* on, his equals soon o'erpass'd. *Dryden.*  
 A double wreath shall crown our Caesar's brows.  
 2. To press forward.  
 Ascanius took th' alarm, while yet he led,  
 And *spurring* on, his equals soon o'erpass'd. *Dryden.*  
 Some bold men, though they begin with infinite ignorance  
 and error, yet, by *spurring* on, refine themselves. *Grew.*  
*SPURGALLED*. *adj.* [from *spur* and *gall*.] Hurt with the spit.  
 I was not made a horse,  
 And yet I bear a burthen like an ass,  
*Spurgall'd* and tir'd, by jaunting Bolingbroke. *Shakespeare.*  
 What! shall each *spurgall'd* hackney of the day,  
 Or each new pension'd sycophant, pretend  
 To break my windows, if I treat a friend. *Pope.*  
*SPURGE*. *n. f.* [from *spurgis*, French; *spurgis*, Dutch, from *purge*,  
 Latin.] A plant violently purgative. *Spurge* is a general  
 name in English for all milky purgative plants. *Skinner.*  
 The flower consists of one leaf, of the globous bell shape;  
 cut into several moon-shaped segments, and encompassed by  
 two little leaves, which seem to perform the office of a flower-  
 cup; the point is for the most part triangular, which rises  
 from the bottom of the flower, and becomes a fruit of the  
 same shape, divided into three cells, each containing an oblong  
 seed. Every part of the plant abounds with a milky juice.  
 There are seventy-one species of this plant, of which wart-  
 wort is one. The first sort, called broad-leaved *spurge*, is a  
 biennial plant, and used in medicine under the name of cata-  
 putia minor. The milky juice in these plants is used by some  
 to destroy warts; but particular care should be taken in the  
 application, because it is a strong caustick. *Miller.*  
 The leaves of cataputia, or *spurge*, being plucked upwards  
 or downwards, perform their operations by purge or vomit;  
 is a strange conceit, ascribing unto plants positional opera-  
 tions. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*  
*SPURGE* Laurel, or *Mezerion*. *n. f.* [from *spurgis*, Latin.] A plant.  
 The characters are: the flower consists of one leaf; is, for  
 the most part, funnel-shaped, and cut into four segments;  
 from whose centre rises the point, which afterward becomes  
 an oval fruit, which is in some full of juice, but in others is  
 dry. In each is contained one oblong seed. It is a rough  
 purge. *Miller.*  
*SPURIOUS*. *adj.* [from *spurius*, Latin.]  
 1. Not genuine; counterfeit; adulterine.  
 The coin that shows the first is generally rejected as *spu-  
 rious*, nor is the other esteemed more authentick by the present  
 Roman medallists. *Addison on Italy.*  
 If any thing else has been printed, in which we really had  
 any hand, it is loaded with *spurious* additions. *Swift.*  
 2. Not legitimate; bastard.  
 Your Scipio's, Caesar's, Pompey's, and your Cato's,  
 These gods on earth, are all the *spurious* brood  
 Of violated maids. *Addison's Cato.*  
*SPURLING*. *n. f.* [from *spurlan*, French.] A small sea-fish.  
 All-faints, do lay for porke and fowle,  
 For sprats and *spurlings* for your house. *Tusser.*  
 To *SPURN*. *v. a.* [from *spurnan*, Saxon.]  
 1. To kick; to strike or drive with the foot.  
 They suppos'd I could rend bars of steel,  
 And *spurn* in pieces posts of adamant. *Shakespeare. Henry VI.*  
 Say my request's unjust,  
 And *spurn* me back; but if it be not so,  
 Thou art not honest. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*  
 You that did void your rheum upon my beard,  
 And foot me as you *spurn* a stranger cur  
 Over your threshold. *Shakespeare. Merchant of Venice.*  
 He in the surging smoke  
 Uplifted *spurn'd* the ground. *Milton.*  
 So was I forc'd  
 To do a sovereign justice to myself,  
 And *spurn* thee from my presence. *Dryden's Don Sebastian.*  
 Then will I draw up my legs, and *spurn* her from me with  
 my foot. *Addison's Spectator.*  
 A milk-white bull shall at your altars stand,  
 That threatens a fight, and *spurns* the rising sand.  
 When Athens links by fates unjust,  
 When wild barbarians *spurn* her dust.  
 Now they, who reach Parnassus' lofty crown,  
 Employ their pains to *spurn* some others down. *Pope.*  
 2. To reject; to scorn; to put away with contempt; to disdain.  
 In wisdom I should ask your name;  
 But since thy outsize looks fo fair and warlike,  
 What fate and nicely I might well delay,  
 By rule of knighthood, I disdain and *spurn*. *Shakespeare.*  
 3. To treat with contempt.  
 Domesticicks will pay a more cheerful service, when they find  
 themselves not *spurned*, because fortune has laid them at their  
 masters feet. *Locke.*

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To *SPURN*. *v. n.*  
 1. To make contemptuous opposition; to make insolent re-  
 sistance.  
 A son to blunt the sword  
 That guards the peace and safety of your person;  
 Nay more, to *spurn* at your most royal image. *Shakespeare.*  
 I, Pandulph, do religiously demand  
 Why thou against the church, our holy mother,  
 So wilfully do'st *spurn*? *Shakespeare. King John.*  
 Instruct me why  
 Vane should *spurn* against our rule, and flie  
 The tributary provinces to war. *Philips's Briton.*  
 2. To toss up the heels; to kick or struggle.  
 The drunken chairman in the kennel *spurns*,  
 The glasses shatters, and his charge o'erturns. *Gay.*  
*SPURN*. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Kick; insolent and contemp-  
 tuous treatment.  
 The insolence of office, and the *spurns*  
 That patient merit of th' unworthy takes. *Shakespeare. Hamlet.*  
*SPURNER*. *n. f.* A plant.  
*SPURRER*. *n. f.* [from *spur*.] One who uses spurs.  
*SPURRIER*. *n. f.* [from *spur*.] One who makes spurs.  
*SPURRY*. *n. f.* [from *spurgis*, Latin.] A plant.  
*Spurry* feed is sown in the low countries in Summer, the first  
 time in May, that it may flower in June and July; and in  
 August the seed is ripe. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*  
 To *SPURT*. *v. n.* [See *To SPURT*.] To fly out with a quick  
 stream.  
 If from a puncture of a lancet, the manner of the *spurring*  
 out of the blood will shew it. *Wifeman's Surgery.*  
*SPURWAY*. *n. f.* [from *spur* and *way*.] A horseway; a bridle-road;  
 distant from a road for carriages.  
*SPUTATION*. *n. f.* [from *sputum*, Latin.] The act of spitting.  
 A moist consumption receives its nomenclature from a moist  
*sputation*, or expectoration: a dry one is known by its dry  
 cough. *Harvey on Consumptions.*  
 To *SPUTTER*. *v. n.* [from *spute*, Latin.]  
 1. To emit moisture in small flying drops.  
 If a manly drop or two fall down,  
 It scalds along my cheeks, like the green wood,  
 That, *sputtering* in the flame, works outward into tears. *Dry.*  
 2. To fly out in small particles with some noise.  
 The nightly virgin, while her wheel the plies,  
 Foresees the storms impending in the skies;  
 When sparkling lamps their *sputtering* light advances,  
 And in the sockets oily bubbles dance. *Dryden.*  
 3. To speak hastily and obscurely, as with the mouth full; to  
 throw out the spittle by hasty speech.  
 A pinking owl fat *sputtering* at the sun, and asked him what  
 he meant to stand staring her in the eyes. *LeStrange.*  
 They could neither of them speak their rage; and so fell  
 a *sputtering* at one another, like two roasting apples. *Congreve.*  
 Though he *sputter* through a session,  
 It never makes the least impression;  
 What'er he speaks for madnes goes. *Swift.*  
 To *SPUTTER*. *v. a.* To throw out with noise and hesi-  
 tation.  
 Thou do'st with lies the throne invade,  
 Obtending heav'n for what'er ills befall;  
 And *sputtering* under specious names thy gall. *Dryden.*  
 In the midst of carefices, and without the least pretended in-  
 citement, to *sputter* out the basest accusations! *Swift.*  
*SPUTTERER*. *n. f.* [from *sputter*.] One that sputters.  
*SPY*. *n. f.* [from *spio*, Welsh; *espion*, French; *spie*, Dutch; *specula-  
 tor*, Latin.] It is observed by a German, that *spy* has been in  
 all ages a word by which the eye, or office of the eye, has been  
 expressed: thus the *Arimaspians* of old, fabled to have but one  
 eye, were so called from *ari*, which, among the nations of  
 Caucasus, still signifies one; and *spi*, which has been received  
 from the old Asiatick languages for an eye, sight, or one that  
 sees.] One sent to watch the conduct or motions of others;  
 one sent to gain intelligence in an enemy's camp or country.  
 We'll hear poor rogues  
 Talk of court news, and we'll talk with them too,  
 And take upon the mystery of things;  
 As if we were God's *spies*. *Shakespeare. King Lear.*  
*Spies* of the Volscians  
 Held me in chace, that I was forc'd to wheel  
 Three or four miles about. *Shakespeare's Coriolanus.*  
 Every corner was possesied by diligent *spies* upon their  
 master and mistress. *Clarendon.*  
 I come no *spy*,  
 With purpose to explore, or to disturb,  
 The secrets of your realm. *Milton's Paradise Lost.*  
 Such command we had,  
 To see that none thence issu'd forth a *spy*,  
 Or enemy, while God was in his work. *Milich.*  
 Nothing lies hid from radiant eyes;  
 All they subdue become their *spies*:  
 Secrets, as chosen jewels, are  
 Presented to oblige the fair. *Waller.*  
 O'er